

**Budget and Finance Committee
Regular Meeting
September 16, 2002 - 1:00 p.m.
Tribal Office Boardroom**

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Committee Chairperson Joan Delabreau called and informed the committee that she would be late. Anthony Waupochick Sr., called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Those present: Kathy Kaquatosh, Sarah Skubitz, Linda Zablocki and Dan Maine. Others that were present for the meeting were, Ann Marie Johnson, Devin Wynos, Kristi Arnold, Pat Corn and Jeremy Weso.

2. Moment of Silence - A moment of silence was observed.

3. Federal & State Funding Status for 2003

Committee went into lengthy discussion regarding the state and federal funding status. Finance brought to the committee's attention the departments that receive federal and state funding. The big concern is that the state and federal funding sometimes does not come in until January. Where is the money going to come from to fund these programs until their funding arrives?

Committee discussed the possibility of laying the people off in the departments until the funding does come in but then there are some departments that can't be laid off such as Law Enforcement and there are some departments that are already operating without the funds like Head Start.

Committee began to look at the departments to see which if any could wait for the funding and which ones needed the tribe to fund them.

Committee was concerned because the budget talks are on hold in Congress right now and that the President of the United States told Congress that the defense budget comes before all the rest. Jeremy Weso stated that he thinks that Congress will end up passing "continuing resolutions" which gives the allotted budget to the departments that were previously funded.

Motion made by Tony Waupochick Sr. to recommend to the Menominee Tribal Legislature that they prioritize programs and that the programs continue to function as if they have continuing resolutions and that the Legislature set a time frame as to how long the Tribe will fund the programs with the continuing resolution. Seconded by Sarah Skubitz. All those in favor signify by saying aye, 5-for, 0-opposed. Motion carried.

Committee talked about other ways to save money. Kathy stated that she thought about finance going back to doing accounts payable ONLY on the 15th and 30th of each month. Committee briefly talked about the Maehnowesekiyah Early Childhood/Daycare being taken over by Tribal Daycare and Tribal Clinic take over Maehnowesekiyah's billing.

4. Fiscal Year 2002 Closeouts

Committee talked briefly about FY 2002 budget closeouts and the finance staff said that they will not be finished with the closeouts until sometime in October when everyone gets their bills submitted.

5. Fiscal Year 2003 Budget

Committee members talked about the rumors and the angry concerns people have about the budget and budget cuts. Chairperson Delabreau stated that people will talk no matter what and the committee needs to stand firm on the decisions they made regarding the budget.

6. **Other Business**

There were two items of information that the Chairman's Office received and Chairperson Waukau sent to the committee for review.

The first item was a faxed letter from Leila Rose Beauprey who requested that the tribe to buy her loan from the bank. Ms. Beauprey stated in the letter, that she lives in Milwaukee and let her brother live in her trailer home (which she is paying the loan on). In turn, her brother was to make the payments to the bank and didn't causing her credit to go bad and the bank wants her to find another lender. Leila hasn't had any luck finding anyone to finance her and wanted the Tribe to pay for the loan and then she would make payments to the tribe.

The committee didn't like the fact that the letter was faxed, it wasn't dated, wasn't signed and didn't have a total amount on it. The committee didn't take any action on it.

Committee reviewed a letter from the National Congress of American Indians asking if the tribe would be a sponsor for the 59th Annual Session.

Motion made by Tony Waupochick Sr. to deny the request from NCAI for sponsorship due to the budget situation. Seconded by Dan Maine. All those in favor signify by saying aye, 5-for, 0-opposed. Motion carried.

7. **Adjournment**

Motion made by Tony Waupochick Sr. to adjourn. Seconded by Dan Maine. All those in favor signify by saying aye, 5-for, 0-opposed. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by
Legislative Staff Services